

Cinnamomum kruseanum (Lauraceae), a New Species from Guerrero, Mexico

Oswaldo Téllez-Valdés and José Luis Villaseñor

Instituto de Biología, U.N.A.M., Departamento de Botánica, Apartado postal 70-367, 04510 México, D.F., Mexico

ABSTRACT. *Cinnamomum kruseanum* (Lauraceae), collected in the state of Guerrero, Mexico, is described as a new species. The species is illustrated, and its relationships are discussed.

RESUMEN. *Cinnamomum kruseanum* (Lauraceae), colectada en el estado de Guerrero, México, es descrita como una nueva especie. Esta nueva especie es ilustrada, y se discuten sus relaciones con otras especies de *Cinnamomum*.

During the process of identification and curation of H. Kruse's Herbarium, a private plant collection recently acquired by the National Herbarium (MEXU), a number of collections have turned out to be undescribed taxa. One of them is the following new species of *Cinnamomum*.

Cinnamomum kruseanum O. Téllez-Valdés & Villaseñor, sp. nov. TYPE: Mexico. Guerrero: Agua de Obispo, Puente el Mosco, falda este del cerro, alt. 850–900 m, 4 mar. 1961 (fl, fr), H. Kruse 620 (holotype, MEXU; isotypes, ENCB, MEXU, MO). Figure 1.

Arbor usque ad 3 m alta. Folia 6.3–11.9 cm longa, 3.8–4.8 cm lata, ovato-lanceolata, amplexicaulia, trinervia, apice acuto, cuspidato vel rotundato; basi cordata, superficie adaxiali cinereo-strigulosa vel glabrescenti abaxiali dense cinereo-velutina. Inflorescentiae paniculatae axillares; flores 2–4 mm diam.; tepala 1–2 mm longa, dense minute canescentia; stamina externa et interna oblonga, stipitata; staminodia sagittata, apice apiculato. Fructus 8–10 mm longus, 6–8 mm latus, ellipticus; cupula valde 6 lobata.

Tree to 3 m tall. Stems, leaves, rachis of the inflorescences, pedicels and calyx densely cinereous-strigulose to velutinous. Leaves 6.3–11.9 cm long, 3.8–4.8 cm wide, alternate, blade ovate-lanceolate to sometimes ovate, firmly chartaceous, base cordate, amplexicaulous, with the lobes sometimes overlapping, apex acute to cuspidate to rounded, spreading cinereous-strigulose to glabrescent above, densely cinereous-velutinous below, soft to the touch; petioles 2–4 mm long, stout, cinereous. Inflorescences cymose, up to 13 cm long, axillary; peduncles

3–8 cm long; pedicels 6–13 mm long, slender; flowers 2–3(–4) mm diam. at anthesis; tepals 6, 1–2 mm long, 1 mm wide, ovate-lanceolate, cream to light brown, persistent, densely canescent with short, thick, gray hairs; hypanthium ca. 1 mm long. Outer 6 stamens 1 mm long, oblong, apex rounded, filaments pubescent; anthers quadrate-ovate; inner 3 stamens 1–1.5 mm, the basal pair of glands sessile to subsessile; staminodia 3, ca. 0.5 mm long, deltoid to ovate, sagittate, apex apiculate, hirsutulous. Ovary glabrous; style 1.0 mm, as long as ovary; peduncles 10–15 mm long. Fruits 8–10 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, ellipsoid, dark brown, glabrous; seated in a shallow, strongly 6-lobed, brown, fleshy cupule, the lobes 2 mm long, 2 mm wide, ovate; seeds not seen.

Although the genus *Cinnamomum* Schaeffer is a large, poorly known genus (van der Werff, 1991), its members can be recognized by the cupule subtending the fruit, the tepals frequently persistent and forming a crown on the cupule, and the alternate and triplinerved leaves. Among its members, *C. kruseanum* stands as a distinctive taxon because of its amplexicaul and densely cinereous-velutinous leaves, features not found in any other known Mexican species of the genus.

Following Mez (1889), *Cinnamomum kruseanum* keys out to *Phoebe amplexicaulis* (Chamisso & Schlechtendal) Mez. However, van der Werff (1991) considered all the neotropical *Phoebe* as belonging to *Cinnamomum*. Accordingly, if we follow van der Werff's assumptions, it is not difficult to postulate a relationship between *C. kruseanum* and *P. amplexicaulis*. Both species are readily separated by the pubescent condition of the stems, leaves, and inflorescences of *C. kruseanum* and the glabrous condition of *P. amplexicaulis*. In addition, the former has inflorescences as long as or longer than the leaves, the stamens are oblong, and the staminodia are sagittate, with a sharply apiculate apex, whereas in the latter the inflorescences are shorter than the leaves, the stamens are oblanceolate, and the staminodia are sagittate, with a slightly rounded apex.

The species epithet honors Hubert Kruse, the

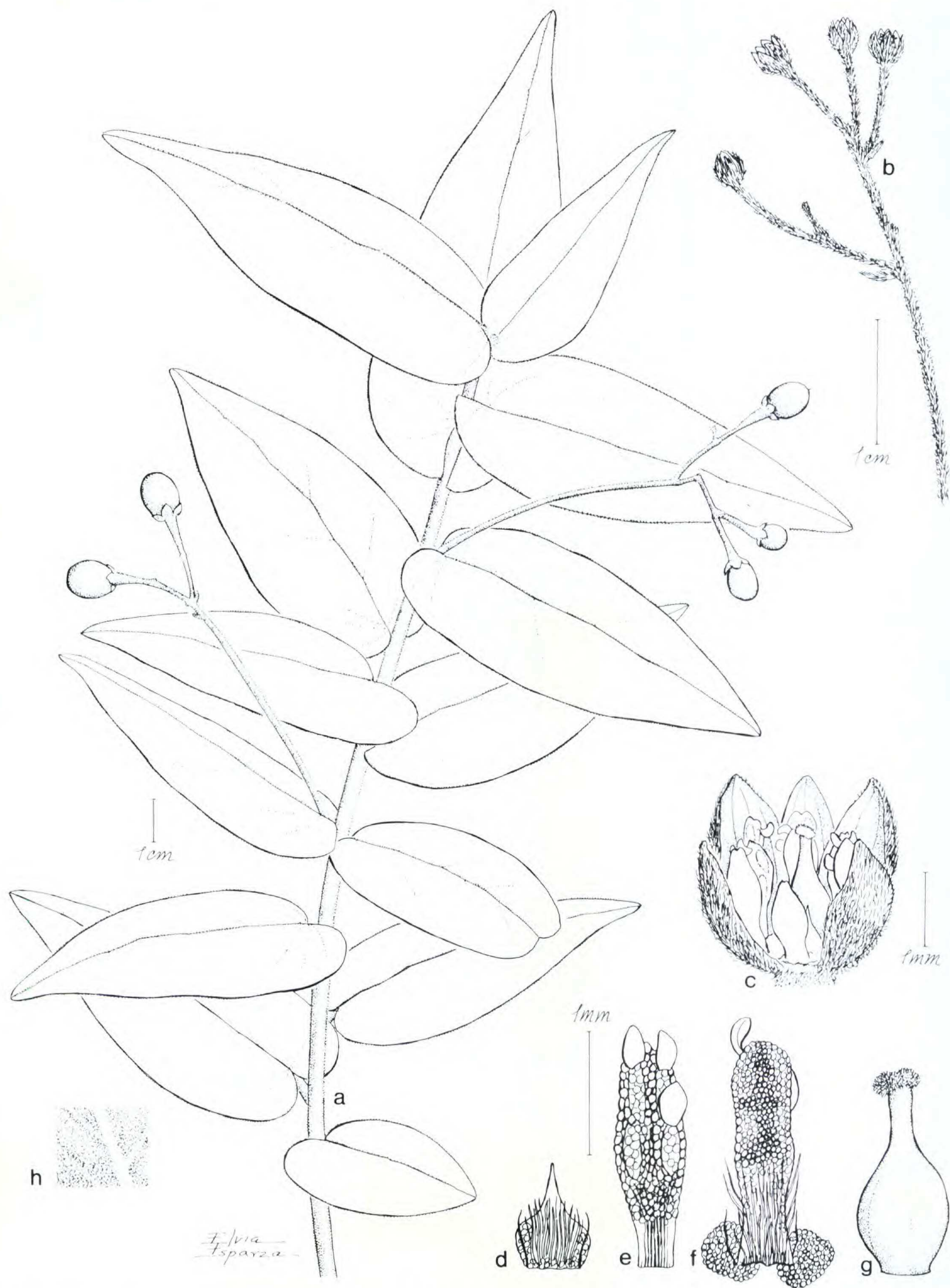


Figure 1. *Cinnamomum kruseanum* O. Téllez-Valdés & Villaseñor. —a. Habit showing infructescences. —b. Detail of inflorescence. —c. Flower showing reproductive structures. —d. Staminode. —e. Stamen. —f. Stamen showing basal glands. —g. Ovary. —h. Detail of leaf pubescence (all from Kruse 620).

collector of this new species, who, since 1959 and for more than 20 years, made plant collections in the state of Guerrero, especially in the Municipios of Chilpancingo, Tierra Colorada, and Zumpango del Río.

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